53. Occurrence of a New Lacustrine Hydroid in Japan.

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There are known only a few hydroids in fresh and brackish water in the world. Most of them belong to the Hydridae (including *Protohydra*) and the rest to the following genera such as *Polypodium*, *Cordylophora*, *Moerisia*, *Craspedacusta* and *Limnocnida*, of which the last three produce medusae. In Japan *Hydra vulgaris attenuata*[1] and *Craspedacusta iseana* alone have been hitherto known. Recently (Aug. 1928) a new hydroid was found by Mr. Hisao Hori, from Kahoku-gata, a cove in the central part of Japan proper and connected with the Japan Sea. In September, S. Uchida and Mr. Hori collected many specimens of the hydroid from the cove and in October they found them again in Ōchi-gata, a cove also connected with the Japan Sea. The hydroids disappeared in the former cove in the beginning of December, 1928, but were abundantly found in the latter cove in the same month. Some brought from there to the biological laboratory in the Fourth Higher School are still living (February, 1929).

Fig. 1.

Aggregated *Laccocoryne* on a water plant, natural size.

The hydroids are attached on a species of *Potamogeton* and commonly aggregated but rarely isolated. So far as our observations go, they were solitary and without branches or stolons. The base slightly broader than the stem is firmly fastened to the plant and covered with gelatinous substance with which debris and mud are mixed, giving homes for *Chironomus* larvae. Polyps generally 2.5–3.3 mm high, consisting of a long narrow stem (2.8 mm long in well-developed specimens) and a somewhat spindle-shaped hydranth which is 0.5 mm in well-developed specimens and provided with 10-25 tentacles of which those in the distal portion are long and filamentous and those in the proximal are short, and bulbar or sausage-shaped, often projecting aborally. The filamentous tentacles are irregularly disposed in

1) The identification is due to Mr. T. Shinohara.

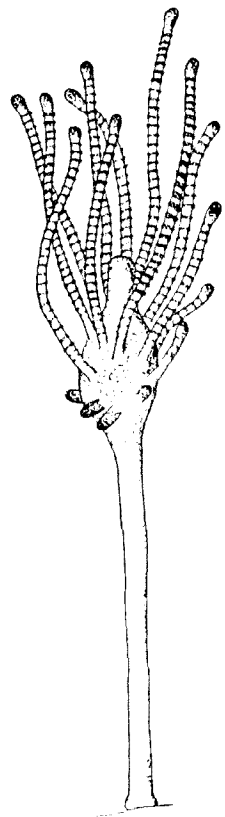

Fig. 2.
Laccocoryne horii n.g. et n. sp., 3.3 mm high.

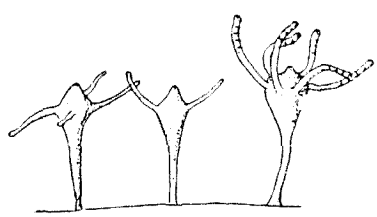

Fig. 3.
Laccocoryne horii n.g. et n. sp., young specimens.

about 4–5 whorls and armed with 30–40 nematocyst rings which are pronounced in the distal but bare of in the proximal portion. At the tip of the tentacles is a slightly knob-like nematocyst cluster. The proximal short bulbar tentacles are stiff and devoid of nematocyst rings but most probably later develop to the filamentous ones. The hydranth has an elevated cone-like upper portion, at the center of which a mouth opens. In young specimens with 2–6 tentacles the demarcation between the hydranth and the stem is not obvious, and younger hydroids have a shorter stem and comparatively large hydranth. Gonads could not be seen and development unknown. The hydroid, though similar to *Hydra* in the absence of the perisarc and the presence of filamentous tentacles, is probably referable to the Corynidae, because the tentacles are arranged as in *Coryne* and provided with a small distal nematocyst knob. The absence of the perisarc is probably due to the lacustrine life of the animal as seen in other fresh-water or brackish water hydroids. So we propose here a new genus for it near in position to *Corya* and *Monocoryne* in the Corynidae as

Laccocoryne nov. gen.

All tentacles filamentous but slightly knobbed, unbranched, irregularly arranged, not in groups. Without perisarc. Solitary. Type species : *Laccocoryne horii*[1] n.sp. found in brackish water in Japan.

The embryology, histology and ecology about the hydroid are still in investigation by S. Uchida who will publish them before long.

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1) We have a pleasure to name the hydroid after the collector to whom our cordial thanks are due.